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NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE PRESENTATION
FOR SOVIET JUNIOR NATIONAL WRESTLING TEAM

MISSOULA--

Members of the Soviet Junior National Wrestling Team, on tour of the U.S., and in Missoula to face the Montana all-star junior wrestlers Friday night, were given a presentation on native American culture Friday morning in the Edgewater Restaurant of the Village Motor Inn.

Via a translator, R. "Corky" Covington, a UM senior in sociology from Spokane, spoke to the Russians in the traditional Salish attire worn by several northwest area tribes. Covington is a member of the Colville Confederated Tribes of north central Washington. He extended a greeting in his native tongue.

His discussion with the Russians involved the native American "Circle of Life," described by Covington as "the respect Indians have for all living things," and Indian methods of education, "in which even grandmothers served as educators."

"The grandmothers' methods of education included the telling of legends to teach youngsters, which is considerably different from contemporary schooling in the white man's culture," Covington said.

Paintings, artifacts, tools, items of clothing and native American foods were displayed by Covington in conjunction with his lecture.

Before enrolling at UM, Covington worked as a counselor under a federal program in the Spokane Public School System in the late 1960s and early 1970s.